

FAX: 702-386-9825

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who have lost lives. They've given more than should be required. Let the states that house and use the nuclear plants dispose of their own waste.

I love Lincoln County and I love this state and I love America, but I also love common sense and logic, and this plan has none.

TERRY JONES: I'm from Pioche, Nevada. First of all, let me give you a story. I moved here when I was four years old, so I've been in and around here. I went to Vegas and taught for 30 years, went to college and a few things, but nevertheless this has kind of been my roots. My parents lived here all that time. So in other words, I've been here for a long time.

And I was here during the time of the down winders where the atomic bombs went off. Fortunately about the time it really got bad was about the time I pulled up and moved out and went away to college, so I kind of missed the down thing that affected most of the people around here.

And I've always been, you know, in fact, right now I fight a lot with the commissioner on different other things. You know, I've always maintained that if you're not doing something for a county, you're doing it to the county. And right now Page 7

1 is what's going to happen as I see it. We're going
2 to get on the short end of the stick again. Because
3 I read the papers. I go to the meetings. I go here
4 and there, but not once do they ever say what is this
5 going to do for Lincoln County. We're going to take
6 a portion of Lincoln County, we're going to run a
7 railroad through there, how is it going to benefit
8 us? Sure it might put a few more railroad workers to

work, but how is it going to actually affect us?

Right now the budget for Lincoln County, they've been fighting this for the last two years, for sure longer than that about having enough money to actually run the county. But none of this money goes into the coffer for running the county.

You know, everything we have, either grants, 15 loans or some other type of, you know, gift, if you 16 will. In other words, if we don't have those, you 17 know, in lieu of tax money, these type of things, 18 we'd be deep down in the gully. Right now we're one 19 of the most impoverished counties. If you don't 20 believe this, check the record. It will tell you in 21 22 the state of Nevada.

And, you know, like I say, if you're not doing it for Lincoln County, you're doing it to Lincoln County. And I cannot understand how we can

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I feel people are doing it to the county.

As of right now I hear this railroad going through, but I don't hear anybody saying how is that going to affect us. This Joint Alleviation Impact Committee spent 20 years in Lincoln County doing an impact study of how it will affect us. 20 years.

During that time their budget has been between a half to three quarters of a million dollars every year. So that means over the 20-year period, if we rounded out to a half million, they have spent at least \$10 million. The amount of money that the state and this town could really help this county is just about zilch. All of this Joint Alleviation Impact Committee has been conducted by people outside of Lincoln County. They come in here, they hold a meeting, they leave here, they go outside the county.

So in other words, it's not doing us any good. So my question is it sounds like we're outnumbered, okay. You know, like David and Goliath, we're outnumbered. In other words, the representation in Congress far outweighs us from here back to there, and as a direct result we're going to get it.

I wish we had that slingshot that David had, but we don't have it. And so as a direct result this Page 8

1 actually, any of us, can approve something like this

without having some benefit. Right now, and I've
 checked this out, there is some nuclear waste

4 actually going through here to the Test Site. You

5 know, it's not the big, nuclear waste, you know, the

6 heavy stuff, but there are certain things going over

7 there right now. They go through Lincoln County. We

don't get one dime for it. We don't get a penny. We

9 don't get anything.

So if we're going to put our health, our welfare and the welfare of our many people that come to Lincoln County, and if we're going to put that on the line, then we ought to be getting paid for it so the younger generation can come up through the ranks and at least have a sellable skill when they get out of school here. Right now most of our kids here leave here because there's nothing for them to stay for. And I resent that, you know. I had to leave. That was back in '56.

So, you know, I'm just a little concerned about this, and I know there's nothing that can be done to stop it, but I guess I could say I'd like to stop it, but I can't. I read it. There's no way I can stop it. But in the interim what I would like to do is see something happen where they would

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compensate us for us putting up with this. And that's what we did during the atomic blasts, we put up with it.

I'd like to be on record as realizing that it's an inevitable thing. Whatever I say or whatever anybody says it's not going to influence it because of the geographical representation. And so I guess at that particular time, you know, what I would like to see happen is if we're going to have to put up with it that we get something.

GLENNON ZELCH: And the first thing I noticed is your sign out here about building a railroad leaves off the most important item: Lots and lots and lots of money is what it takes to build a railroad. And I don't think it's worth it. I think trucks will be much more practical.

How are you going to get waste from all the various sites onto rail? That is my biggest question, how are they going to get it onto rail? These huge railroad casks that they're talking about are only going to work if the facility has a rail citing and if the facility can put together an entire train of casks.

Because I don't think the railroads are going to want to haul one car as part of a 150 car Page 11

With satellite tracking, once that truck is loaded, it's a full load, it's going to carry one cask and that's it. They can track that truck all the way to 3 4 Yucca.

Rail cars can be tracked but not as easily, and they can't maintain the security of them. One truck they can. They can contract with a single trucking company that will do nothing but haul 8 9 nuclear waste. All the drivers can be background 10 checked, certified, everything. How are you going to check background of every employee that works on every railroad yard and all the hobos that hang out 12 13 there?

I think they might as well just build a good highway and make the transfer station down at the end of Rainbow Canyon. Build a good highway straight out to Kain Springs Road. It leads from -- well, you come down the railroad to about this place here, which would put you 20 miles out of Caliente, so that would remove most of the argument about that. Right in town, take it right out across 93.

And this map is not exactly accurate, the wildlife reservation border comes right along here. You cross over at that point, you're in federal land all the way. You cross here, drop down along here,

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long train that's hauling coal and refrigerators and automobiles and everything else and then take it into a rail yard and juggle it around, finally get it into a train that's headed west. You know, there's too many logistical problems there. How are they going to keep track of that rail car, maintain security on it? I don't think it could be done.

And the heavy haul idea, I told the guy two years ago it was not going to work. I've seen they've finally given it up. I think what you're doing is just floating some trial balloons to see how much reaction you get. I think ultimately they're going to set them on trucks because it's the only practical way to handle it.

Rail lines, what they're talking about building on this end, first of all, is way more expensive than building a reasonably good highway. And on the other end, gathering the stuff together and loading it on the rail is not going to work very well because some of the sites don't even have rail service.

So you've either got to build service into those sites, which is not practical, or load it on a truck and then transfer it. If you want to load it on a truck, you might as well leave it on a truck.

come up around here to Yucca and you're either in the federal wildlife area or you're in the Nevada test 2 3 range.

And all of it is run by the same president, so if he wants it to go that way, it could be made to go that way regardless. I've talked to several people who said no, the military won't allow us to cross the Nellis test range. If the President says you're going to cross, just give him a hundred feet to lay their roadway in, it will go across. And there's no reason it couldn't be done. It would be 12 economical.

For that matter the states can't restrict transfer the haul on the interstate highway system anyway. So the only way they can make a restriction is if they come off the interstate. Well, if they wanted to they could come down I-15 here and build an exit that would come over here through Elgin and have a highway across there that would just pick up in Elgin.

So if any of it came in by rail that would be transferred to Elgin on the trucks into Yucca from there. If it came in by highway everything east of Nevada could come down, it's going to wind up coming down I-15 because it's the only route that gets close

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to Yucca, come down I-15 and exit somewhere north of Mesquite, come across the southern end of Lincoln County through wherever our transfer point is and then on into Yucca from there, follow the same route as what the off-loaded stuff comes in if it doesn't actually have to get loaded onto rail cars.

They can't load those huge casks on rail cars. I mean, they could load them onto rail cars, that part is possible, but they can't -- I don't think there's any of the facilities that are able to handle that size of a cask, the nuclear sites. And once they've got it loaded, then you have the problem of unloading it. Of course if it stayed on rail all the way then the other end could be equipped to unload it.

But I don't think the beginning end of the line is going to be able to handle putting them on. The casks are too big. Downsize the truck size and then they can handle that with forklifts and ordinary cranes that every facility has got available.

And it will be within something that could be afforded. And that's the key is it all comes down to money. Anything can be done if you put enough money into it, but some things can be done a whole lot more economically than they are. That's what we talk to any of your engineers who try to convince me otherwise.

PATRICIA LONG: My phone number is

My work number is
have talked to Allen Benson and Robin Sweeney. I

6 have invited them to call me because I would like to
7 drive them up to where I live to show them two of the
8 ways that they want to put their railroad; one is
9 five tenths of a mile from my front door, and the
10 other one is through my backyard.

We just built a \$247,000 home. We just made an improvement of \$25,000 worth of brick wall. We own 40 acres. We have subdivided that 40 acres into ten parcels. We have three parcels left. Everybody that has bought a lot has built over a \$200,000 home on this land. And I really do think this new train has got a big environmental impact upon our lives.

Also, we got an e-mail saying that if the new train came into Caliente that they would close down this school, C.O. Bastian High School, within five years. That would put an impact. Now you not only want to take my house, you want to take my job. That was the rumor that we got that we would be closed if the train came in here. So whether that is a false rumor or not, that's one of the ones that's

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have to look at here, get it down to something we can afford to do.

You see all the time in the papers where there's rail accidents. How are you going to get at least one track built up to the standard where you could be 99 percent sure there wouldn't be a wreck on it? I don't see that happening. I don't see how you could push the railroads. You have to bribe the hell out of them, and that's what we're trying to do is avoid a bunch of big expenses.

The interstate highways are a different story. You've already got them built. And you better put money into them if you're talking about the rail line carrying another commodity for local area, there is no local areas in the reserve. There's nothing out there. But the interstates, yeah, they can carry everything.

So just put them on legal weight trucks, handle it correctly, you know, with good security on the drivers. And know where the trucks are at and use satellite tracking to track that truck continuously from the time it left the nuclear site until it was at Yucca. You would know if it stopped or started or anything along the way. It's the only thing I see that's practical. And I'd be glad to

1 flying around.

I don't feel that our government, our city or our county commissioners have represented us properly by telling you that we want this, because I think the citizens of Lincoln County don't want it, or at least they don't want it driving through their tracks.

And we also are questioning why can't it go through the Test Site. That would save billions of dollar, millions of dollars at least, or widen the UP railroad, extending the line they already have and put the train coming, give it its own track and just use the existing line if you're going to do that.

When the mayor first stated at first when it was first coming in that we didn't, Lincoln County didn't want it, but it was going to come and we wanted moneys or hospitals and things like that. And Governor Miller got mad at the mayor for saying something like that. We didn't get any road money in this county for almost two years.

So the State of Nevada has an impact on what happens in Lincoln County, if there's a support of this also. So when it comes to that they could close down this school if it comes in. Maybe the federal government isn't going to do that but the State of

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Nevada, they could do something like that.

SUSAN POTTS: I'm with Friends of Nevada Wilderness, and these are comments from the organization. We're opposed to the Yucca Mountain project and the proposal to transport nuclear waste by rail through Nevada. The DOE's preferred route for shipping nuclear waste would directly impact wilderness quality lands in the state. The Caliente corridor, as it's known, as the preferred route for transporting this waste will directly harm three wilderness study areas.

The plans to ship nuclear waste to Nevada not only puts the public health of Nevadans in jeopardy, it will also destroy some of the wildest land in our state. The route the DOE has identified goes through a sparsely inhabited part of the state, but is a region where numerous rare plant and, animal species can be found. And people enjoy it for recreation, hunting, for fishing, for camping, and we would hate to see that destroyed. Although the route crosses three state highways, the route is planned for valleys that currently have no paved roads and only Jeep trails or dirt roads.

The Kawich, South Reveille and Weepah Springs Wilderness study areas are at risk. These really concerned about the security and just how it's going to be arranged. And then I just learned just lately that these casks emit radiation within 800

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4 meters, and I never did know that before.

And they're proposing an industrial park down here the goes over into town for truck shipments. Now, that is not big enough. I mean, if they're going to emit 800 on both sides, there is no possible way they can do that because it's going to affect our whole town. It will go clear up to the schoolhouse within 800 meters. So that's impossible to even think of truck shipments out of there.

And another thing I want to know is being in Caliente the government has some way of saying, We're not going to help you. But in a few years down the line they say, Your fire department is inadequate. Your maintenance is inadequate. You don't have the evacuation program. You don't have buses. You don't have this. And they say, We want you to do it.

Now, we want these things paid by the federal government or the DOE, or whoever is responsible. We want the top of the list fire department. We want a top of the list of a maintenance department. And we want a good evacuation system. And we want it situated in our

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are lands that the BLM designated as Congressionally protected wilderness study areas in 1979 in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964. This act allows undeveloped, wild land to be forever protected from development and motorized vehicles.

The shipment of this waste into Nevada will threaten the health and well being of our families. With this proposal it will damage the wide open spaces and wild character that defines our state as it leaves us vulnerable to terrorist activity.

Friends of Nevada Wilderness has been working to protect Nevada's wild places as an organization since 1984. We and our members are directly impacted by this DOE proposal. Should this railroad be constructed, we will no longer be able to utilize and enjoy our special wild places.

So in summary, Friends of Nevada Wilderness is completely opposed to the Yucca Mountain project and to this proposal to transport nuclear waste by rail through our beautiful state. We will be submitting more detailed comments later in the process.

ARNELDA ARNOLDUS: I live in Caliente. The 23 24 first thing I want to do is ask on the safety of transportation. And one question was is, well, I'm

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county. That's one thing.

The other thing is building the railroad. I see water there. Well, I ask how much water is it going to take. Vegas is wanting to come up here and steal our water, which they are doing quite successfully. Now, I want to know how much water this railroad is going to have to take. What are the wells they're going to drill from? Where are they going to get it and how much is it going to take. 10 Because the more water you pump from these wells in our central part of the state, the more it's going to drain from our basins to the north, Ely, and above Eagle Valley, northern valley. It's going to drain from those basins.

Vegas is already trying to pump it from the southern part of the state. And I feel that we, as the people in the state, should have some protection that if they get any water, they are limited to what they get. Because if you start pumping from our basins, we just might as well give you the state because we're going to be a desert.

The other thing I want to know is how many jobs can we assume that this is going to help in the construction phase for our local people? And then after it's constructed what can we expect for a

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maintenance crew and after they get it operating. Are we going to benefit for it or are we going to have this crap down our throat and say, Tough, you're not getting anything?

I want to see this in a concrete contract of some kind, and I just don't want a promise, a verbal promise. I want to see something in concrete, something that's going to say, Hey, if you choose this corridor, you know, you're going to take it whether you like it or not, and you're not going to get anything out of it. And I don't think that's right.

DON PHILLIPS: I live in Caliente. The very first thing I want to say is not all the population in Caliente are for this nuclear, as stated by our officials, both the commissioners and the local city council.

And I'm real concerned about -- I'm glad you bought up the inspection of the casks. I worry about government. I guess we don't trust our government enough anymore, but how long are you going to let these bids out for these casks? How close of an inspection do we have, because contractors can get awful soft. I worry about that. I worry about the station being here close to us and radiation.

couldn't get rid of us. We're all living here. So I think we have a good stake in the future here.

DOT ROWE: What I think is that it's got to go someplace. They've already picked out Yucca Mountain and put how many millions of dollars, billions of dollars into it, so why shouldn't that be the place.

8 But I think one thing that hasn't been vested enough in is the safety of transporting that, 10 because that seems to be the thing that they bring up all the time in the papers. And these people say, 11 12 well, train wrecks, one of those things falls off it 13 will contaminate so much. But my belief is that the way they'll handle it it won't do that. I don't 14 15 think that's stressed enough, the safety part of it.

RON HORLACHER: I have property in Bouillionville, which is across the road from Cathedral Gorge Park just between Panaca and Pioche, nearer to Panaca. I have some property there.

And I am worried that the train line, they're going to come from Caliente and rebuild the old train line that hauled the ore from Pioche. But at the meeting I learned that they're going to turn left near the airport in Panaca.

What I want to put on the record is that

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I'm just mad at the whole mess. We don't need it here. It was forced onto us. I don't know why the state officials don't have something to say about whether we get it. Our local officials really to me don't amount to anything. In fact, they're for it.

LAVETTE LEE: Our family has been here since 1870. I support this as far as I think it's going to come anyway. And I think that we should try to work with the government. But one thing that I'm really strongly stating is that I think they need to work with the ranchers and the people that they're going through their allotments and property, and they really need to work with them, and they need to talk with them about it because they know the land and they know, you know, maybe a good place to cross or go over and that would help them out. And I think that they need to utilize the local people for that, for help.

And I think it's good you're holding these meetings in the rural areas. Too often all you have is Vegas comments or a lot of like negative people. We own property here. We have a business here. I've lived here and worked here and retired here and raised my children here. Mom raised hers here. She

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Mr. Jerry Carter, who is also here, he's going to be directly affected because he has property in Eccles, and he suggested taking off from the main railroad line in Elgin, crossing through Kain Springs Wash, west through Kain Springs Wash and then go north to 6 the Sheep range of mountains and southward towards to 7 Beatty.

8 That gives you just one small summit to 9 cross, just one small private landowner down there to buy from, and then from Beatty northwest through 10 Mercury and using existing rail lines up into the Test Site. I think that is a route that the 12 Department of Energy has not considered, maybe didn't 13 know about, and it may very well be the best of the 14 possibilities. It would disturb a fewer amount of 15 16 people.

I'm a downwinder, local. I've lost my mother. I've lost my first wife. My daughter has had ovarian cancer but is still surviving after ten years. My brother has throat cancer. We're sick and 20 tired of this stuff that we get from the test range and we're really totally against it coming into our valley. This is Meadow Valley. It's a pretty little valley. We've given and given and given over the years, and we don't want the radioactive waste coming

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	anywhere near us. (Thereupon the proceedings were concluded at 8:00 p.m.) * * * * * *	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER STATE OF NEVADA) SS: COUNTY OF CLARK.) I, Deborah Ann Hines, certified shorthand reporter, do hereby certify that I took down in shorthand (Stenotype) all of the proceedings had in the before-entitled matter at the time and place indicated; and that thereafter said shorthand notes were transcribed into typewriting at and under my direction and supervision and the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true and accurate record of the proceedings had. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my hand this 10th day of May, 2004.	
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Deborah Ann Hines, CCR #473	